

Reorganize While Active™

Reclaim Disk Space and Improve Performance Without Downtime

The Reorganize and Wait Game is Over

Every time a record is deleted from a file on the iSeries, the disk space that the deleted record occupied isn't normally reused until a file reorganization is performed. Of course, IBM ships a utility (RGZPFM) to reorganize files; however, when using this utility no users or processes can access the file. When large, heavily used files are reorganized, it's not unusual for the process to take several hours to complete, which means significant system downtime and a major cause of business disruption. With iTera's Reorganize While Active solution, you can eliminate this downtime and still reap the performance benefits of reorganized files.

The Price of Putting it Off

Because of the resultant system downtime, many shops don't reorganize their files as often as they should (or not at all) to reclaim disk space from purges and record deletions, which makes large amounts of disk space unusable, and in turn causes slow job processing and a real loss of user productivity. Many companies try to solve the problem by adding more DASD, but often just spend money unnecessarily on additional hardware without fully regaining system performance.

How Reorganize While Active Works

Before beginning a file reorganization with Reorganize While Active, use the file analysis tool to quickly see the files with the most deleted records and the amount of disk space that will be recovered. With this, you can then determine the best method for reorganizing the file. Reorganize While Active is shipped with two methods for reorganizing files: "In-Place" and "Mirrored-File". These two methods ensure that you can reorganize files with nearly any kind of attributes.

"In-Place" Method

This method can be used for files with many kinds of attributes, and reclaims all of the deleted records right from the production file — no copy or synchronization is necessary. When using the In-Place method to reorganize, you have the option to keep the records in the same sequential order when the file is reorganized (same as IBM's RGZPFM command), or you can reorganize the file "randomly" which moves the records from the end of the file toward the beginning. If your files are being journaled, you can further protect data integrity by adding commitment control. Exclusive allocation of the file is required to complete the process, but only for a few seconds, and only at a time that you specify.

"Mirrored-File" Method

This method makes a copy of the file in a new library and performs the reorganization as it is being copied. This copy is then kept "in sync" with changes that occur in the production file until a convenient time when the synchronized copy can replace the production file. The Mirrored-File method is typically used under the following circumstances:

- If triggers are associated with the file and they execute actions when records are added or deleted from a file. In this case, the Mirrored-File method should be used because the In-Place method moves the empty records by deleting and writing them back to the file, which will trigger the associated actions
- If any referential constraints are defined for a file
- If journaling is used for data warehousing purposes
- If for any reason you want to reorganize ALL members in a file at the same time

As with the In-Place method, exclusive allocation of the file is required very briefly to complete the process at a time you specify (the production file is replaced with the synchronized copy).

See
back

"From installation through actual reorganizations, the product has lived up to its promise and downtime has been so insignificant that I would describe it as meaningless. We recovered 180 GB of deleted record space when we used the tool."

Dave Hahn,
Director Software Development,
PriceSmart

iTera

No Time for Downtime™

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Features	Benefits
Two methods are included for reorganizing files while active: "In-Place" and "Mirrored"	Ensures you can reorganize a file with nearly any kind of attributes and do so as efficiently as possible
File analysis tool is included that shows files with the most deleted records, the amount of disk space to be recovered, and information to help determine the proper reorganization method	Helps you easily keep on top of your file reorganization tasks, and most optimally use the Reorganize While Active tool
Allows you to reorganize multiple files simultaneously	Dramatically speeds up file reorganization tasks
Allows customization of how the reorganization proceeds and when the process completes	Provides complete control of the process and ensures that exclusive allocation is at a convenient time
Monitors in real-time the status of the reorganization process	View progress of the reorganization process and the expected completion time
Ability to store and view statistical information about each file reorganization that is executed	Easily estimate the time needed for future file reorganizations
Have a file reorganization start from where it left off for a file if it previously had to be ended for some reason	Saves time by not having to reprocess records
Allows saving the unreorganized version of the file when the process has completed ("Mirrored" method only).	Provides a "roll-back" mechanism if needed



Return on Investment

Using Reorganize While Active, you can eliminate a hundred hours or more of planned system downtime each year, plus benefit from reduced DASD expenditures and improved system performance. The cost of downtime and poor system performance can easily exceed the cost of Reorganize While Active.

**For a full demonstration of Reorganize While Active, or for more information, please contact us:
Phone 1-800-957-4511, Email: info@itera.com, Visit: www.itera.com.**

A Complete Suite of System Availability Solutions

When used individually or in concert, iTera's availability solutions ensure that your systems remain online during your critical hours of operation—no matter if it's 9-to-5 or around the clock. Whether it's unplanned causes like disasters, human errors and system failures, or planned maintenance events like file reorgs, backups or OS upgrades, iTera is your complete resource when there's *no time for downtime*.

